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INTELLOFAX 8

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET/CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY~~COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from Cottbus

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

50X1-HUM

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 2 May 1951

REFERENCES

PAGES 2

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Between 12 and 15 March 1951, two units of about 30 men each practiced with two AA guns, apparently of 37 mm, and two other units of 15 men each practiced with two heavy machine guns fitted with tripod mounts and AA sights at the training area west of the Funker Kaserne in Cottbus (H 52/A 57).
2. Nineteen tanks, apparently T-34 models, were seen leaving the Hermann Loens Kaserne toward Madlow. A truck which left the installation towards the town of Cottbus was [redacted] occupied by ten soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. 50X1-HUM
3. A company of soldiers with six medium mortars was seen practicing east of the Sachsendorf Kaserne. At the same time troops were observed to practice mounting and dismounting 12 motorcycles. On another day, a signal company left the installation headed toward the firing range. 50X1-HUM
4. The heavily damaged buildings of the Hermann Loens Kaserne were being reconstructed on 23 March. No troops were as yet quartered there. Soldiers were seen practicing at the AA gun emplacement. Motor vehicles which entered the billeting area [redacted]
5. [redacted] the Dissenchen Kaserne quartered a signal unit of about 300 men. Two trucks, which left the installation on 27 March, carried 35 soldiers and telephone equipment respectively. [redacted] repeatedly observed troops stringing telephone lines. The barracks installation did not appear to be occupied to capacity. Motor vehicles [redacted] were observed there. 50X1-HUM
6. A column of seven rocket launchers was seen moving along Waisenstrasse towards the Cottbus airfield on 12 March. It seemed to have come from the direction of Forst or Guben. A convoy of eight trucks towing artillery

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Document No. [redacted]

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2

50X1-HUM

pieces and carrying troops with red-bordered black epaulets, and one truck with a field kitchen moved along Karl Liebknechtstrasse towards the Alvensleben Kaserne on 24 March. It appeared to have come from the direction of Suben or Forst. The artillery pieces were of about 150-mm and were mounted on four-wheel, rubber-tired long carriages, with spoked front wheels and disk-shaped rear wheels. It could not be determined whether the convoy was loaded on train No 19232 going from Cottbus to Justerbog on 27 March. A truck convoy [] moving along Karl Liebknechtstrasse toward the railroad station on 27 March consisted of four trucks, each carrying a canvas-covered range finder on a tripod mount; three trucks loaded with troops and equipment; and a special truck, apparently a mobile telephone exchange. [] the convoy came from the Alvensleben or Funker Kaserne and was loaded on train No 19232.

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7. On 10 March, Colonel Yokhinka or Yokhenko (fnu) was identified as the commanding officer of the troops in the Alvensleben Kaserne. Six trucks, each of which towed an artillery piece of about 105 mm, moved into the installation at the beginning of March. []

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8. [] a unit from the Sachsendorf Kaserne would allegedly be transferred to Gera or Erfurt. [] troops from Cottbus were to be transferred to the western portion of the Soviet Zone of Germany. Motor vehicles [] were identified in the billeting area. **

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9. In early March the Funker Kaserne quartered a motor transport company and an AA battery with four light guns of about 30 mm caliber. Two more AA guns and several shipments of ammunition arrived at the installation between 4 and 10 March. []

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** Comment. []

[] The movement to Ohrdruf gains in probability because the artillery pieces on the train to Ohrdruf were of the same type with which the 692d How Arty Regt of the 9th Mecz Div is equipped. The regiment is carried in the Alvensleben Kaserne from which the troops []

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